

Application No. 09/616,718  
Docket No. 11187-00001  
(Atty Dkt No. Endow-2, DIV-01)  
Reply to Office Action of January 10, 2005

### REMARKS

In the Office Action under reply, claims 1-3, 5, 6, and 13-15 have been examined. Claims 1 and 2 have been indicated as allowable. Claims 3 and 13 have been rejected under 35. U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for allegedly failing to satisfy the written description requirement. Claims 5, 6, 14, and 15 have been objected to as dependent upon a rejected base claim, but have been indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form.

With the above amendments, claims 3 and 13 have been amended and claims 5, 6, 14, and 15 have been cancelled. Thus, claims 1-3 and 13 remain pending in the application. The Examiner's rejections are addressed, in part, by the above-amendments and are otherwise traversed by the arguments presented below.

#### **THE AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Claim 3 has been amended to incorporate the elements of claims 5 and 6 and claim 13 has been amended to incorporate the elements of claims 14 and 15. Claims 5, 6, 14, and 15 have accordingly been cancelled. Cancellation of these claims is without prejudice, without intent to acquiesce in any rejection of record, and without intent to abandon any previously raised subject matter.

No new matter has been added.

#### **THE REJECTION UNDER 35. U.S.C. §112, FIRST PARAGRAPH**

The Examiner has rejected claims 3 and 13 as allegedly failing to satisfy the written description requirement of 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. The Examiner bases this rejection on the premise that the specification fails to provide sufficient descriptive support for the generic terms "an aldehyde" and "neurotransmitter" as only the neurotransmitters serotonin and dopamine and the aldehydes 5-HIAL and DOPAL are disclosed.

While Applicants do not necessarily agree with the Examiner's conclusion regarding the sufficiency of the descriptive support, claims 3 and 13 have been amended herein to specify that the aldehyde is a biogenic

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aldehyde such as 5-HIAL or DOPAL and that the neurotransmitter is a monoamine such as serotonin or dopamine. This amendment has been made only in the interest of expediting prosecution and should not be seen as an acknowledgement that methods involving other biogenic aldehydes and other neurotransmitters are not supported by the disclosure in the specification.

As the currently pending claims now are specifically drawn to methods reciting dopamine, serotonin, 5-HIAL, and DOPAL, Applicants submit that the pending claims fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. The rejection is in error and its withdrawal is requested.

### CONCLUSION

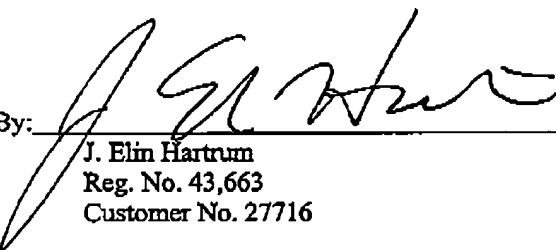
For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that the claims are in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is requested, and a prompt mailing thereof would be much appreciated. Should the Examiner have any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (650) 384-8755.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

4/6/05

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